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| 10/072,175 | 02/07/2002 | Frank J. Chu | PT-035 | 1300 |

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| EXAMINER | |
|---|---|
| JOO, JOSHUA | |
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 10/072,175 | CHU ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | JOSHUA JOO | 2154 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10 June 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-5* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *2* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-5* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *07 February 2002* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

## *Detailed Action*

1. This Office action is in response to communication dated 6/10/2008.

Claims 1-5 are presented for examination.

Claim 2 is withdrawn from examination.

## Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 6/10/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argued that:

3. (1) Applicants have amended claims 3 and 5 to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection.

4. In response, rejection of claims 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 112 is withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments.

5. (2) Applicants believe that the combination of references fails to teach or fairly suggest a packet-switched server keeping a list of clients who have been designated as an active speaker.

6. In response, Examiner respectfully disagrees that the combination of references fails to teach or suggest the amended limitation. Baxley teaches,

> i) "The streaming protocol server 185 is conventionally available and uses the audio conference sum (i.e., the mixed voice stream from all endpoints 30, 120 actively participating in the audio conference) as input for a broadcast signal to passive participants (i.e., endpoints 30, 120 not actively participating in the audio conference)." (Paragraph 0029)
>
> ii) In step 710, audio input is received at the bridge server 50 through the media gateway 90, 95 from either or both GSTN endpoints 30 and packet-based endpoints 120… In step 740, one or more inputs are selected by the MCU 160 based on predetermined selection criteria (e.g., strongest signal, loudest, clearest, a combination thereof, etc.). The selected inputs are conventionally mixed by the MCU 160 in step 750 to form an output stream 752 and a sum stream 754." (Paragraph 0050)
>
> iii) "Otherwise, the output stream 742 and sum stream 744 are returned directly 777 to the endpoints 30, 120. Either way, in step 790 the appropriate voice stream (i.e., the matched output stream 752 and/or sum stream 754) is returned to the endpoints 30, 120." (Paragraph 0052)

iv) Conference participants can be either active or passive. Participants that can both contribute to and receive audio input from an audio conference are active participants. Those that can only receive a voice stream from an audio conference are passive participants. (Paragraph 0064)

v) Support for passive participants can still be provided where there are only a limited number of participants by the MCU 160 the same as it is in a conventional circuit-switched network. That is, a full duplex connection can be established and the receive path simply ignored. However, the method of the present invention can also use broadcasting to support passive participants. (Paragraph 0065)

7. According to the above cited passages, the system identifies two types of participants, passive and active, wherein speakers designated as passive can only receive streams and participants designated as active is allowed to send and receive streams (See passage i, iv, and v). A server receives inputs from active participants and mixes the inputs (passage ii). The server is able to send a mix of inputs to participants of the conference, which include passive and active participants (passage i and iii). Therefore, by being able to send the mix of inputs to participants designated as active, the server is able to identify the participants and thus maintains a list of participants of the conference including participants who are designated as active. The server also maintains a list of participants who are designated as active as the server is able to identify participants that are allowed to send and receive streams from the participants that are only allowed to receive streams.

**Drawings**

8. The drawings dated 02/07/02 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the amended features of claims 1, 3-5 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being

amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112**

9. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

10. Claims 1, 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

i) Regarding claims 1 and 3, it is unclear as which plurality of clients "the plurality of clients" in the "a list of the plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker" is referring to since the claims recites a limitation of "each of the second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker" and "each of the first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker".

ii) Regarding claims 4 and 5, it is unclear as which plurality of clients "the plurality of clients" in the "a list of said plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker" is referring to since the claims recites a limitation of "each of said second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker" and "each of said first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker".

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 1, 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over of Baxley et al, US Publication #2004/0085913 (Baxley hereinafter), in view Kung et al, US Patent #6,671,262 (Kung hereinafter) and Polcyn, US Patent #6,594,269 (Polcyn hereinafter).

13. As per claim 1, Baxley teaches substantially the invention as claimed including a method for audio conferencing between clients of a circuit switched network and clients of a packet switched network, Baxley's teachings comprising:

receiving a first audio packet from the circuit-switched conferencing server, wherein the first audio packet is a mixture of packets received from each of the second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by the circuit-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0050. Audio input is received from GSTN endpoints. Audio inputs are mixed. It is inherent that software process receives audio input for mixing from another software process that receives audio input from the GSTN endpoints.);

receiving, by the packet-switched conferencing server, a plurality of audio packets, wherein the plurality of audio packets comprises a second audio packet from each of the first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by the packet-switched conferencing server (Paragraphs 0050-0051. Audio input is received from packet-based endpoints.);

forwarding, over a connection, the second audio packets to the circuit-switched conferencing server (Paragraphs 0051-0052. Receive audio input from packet endpoints. Output stream is transmitted to the GSTN endpoints. It is inherent that a software process receives and sends audio packets to another software process for transmission to GSTN endpoints.)

mixing the first audio packet with the second audio packets from the first plurality of clients into a composite packet (Paragraphs 0050; 0054. Audio inputs are mixed. Sum stream represents the mixed input of all selected inputs.); and

forwarding the composite packet to each of the first plurality of clients connected to the packet-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0052. Stream is directed to the packet-based endpoints.);

whereby the first and second plurality of clients, using varying equipment and protocols, can simultaneously participate in a single audio conference application (Fig. 1; Paragraph 0038. GSTN endpoints are based on circuit-switched network, packet-based endpoints are based on packet-based network.);

whereby the packet-switched conferencing server keeps a list of the plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker (Paragraph 0051-0052. Send stream to participants including active participants.).

14. Baxley teaches substantial features of the claimed invention including a single server comprising both a packet-switch conferencing server and a circuit-switched conferencing server. However, Baxley does not specifically teach of establishing by a packet-switched conferencing server, a connection to a circuit-switched conferencing server; designating the connection as an active speaker on the packet-switched conferencing server, whereby the packet-switched conferencing server is independent from the circuit-switched conferencing server. Baxley also does not specifically teach of the packet-switched conferencing server receiving audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method.

15. Kung teaches of a system for conferencing comprising a plurality of conferencing servers, wherein a conferencing server establishes a connection with another conferencing server and uses the connection for forwarding audio packets received from a plurality of clients (col. 31, lines 29-50).

16. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings for the packet-switched server and the circuit-switched server comprised in a server as taught by Baxley to be implemented as independent servers and for an independent server to establish a connection with another independent server for forwarding of audio packets received from a plurality of clients as taught by Kung. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Kung's teachings would improve Baxley's teachings by providing distribution of load of a server and offload processing power of a server (col. 31, lines 36-39).

17. Baxley and Kung still do not specifically teach of the packet-switched conferencing server receiving audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method.

18. Polcyn teaches a system for voice conferencing between different networks, wherein a conferencing server receives communications using an asynchronous transmission method (col. 2, lines 32-35; col. 4, lines 21-24, 33-36).

19. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings for the audio packets received by the packet-switched conferencing as taught by Baxley to receive audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method as taught by Polcyn. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Polcyn's teachings of asynchronous transmission would improve the suggested system by allowing communication without synchronization of an external clock, which would allow a simpler setup of communication between devices.

20. As per claim 3, Baxley teaches substantially the invention as claimed including a method for audio conferencing between clients of a circuit switched network and clients of a packet switched network, Baxley's teachings comprising:

receiving a first audio packet from the packet-switched conferencing server, wherein the first audio packet is a mixture of packets received from each of the second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by the packet-switched conferencing server (Paragraphs 0050-0051. Audio input is received from packet-based endpoints. It is inherent that software process receives audio input for mixing from another software process that receives audio input from the packet-based endpoints.);

receiving, by the circuit-switched conferencing server, a plurality of audio packets, wherein the plurality of audio packets comprises a second audio packet from each of the first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by the circuit-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0050. Audio input is received from GSTN endpoints.);

mixing the first audio packet and the second audio packet into one combined audio packet (Paragraphs 0050; 0054. Audio inputs are mixed. Sum stream represents the mixed input of all selected inputs.);

forwarding the one combined audio packet to each of the first plurality of clients connected to the circuit-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0052. Sum stream is directed to the GSTN endpoints.); and

forwarding, over a connection, the second audio packet to the packet-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0052. Output stream is transmitted to the packet-based endpoints. It is inherent that a software process receives and sends audio packets to another software process for transmission to packet-based endpoints.);

whereby the first and second plurality of clients, using varying equipment and protocols, can simultaneously participate in a single audio conference application (Fig. 1; Paragraph 0038. GSTN endpoints are based on circuit-switched network, packet-based endpoints are based on packet-based network.);

whereby the packet-switched conferencing server keeps a list of the plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker (Paragraphs 0051-0052. Send stream to participants including active participants.).

21. Baxley teaches substantial features of the claimed invention including a single server serving as both a packet-switch conferencing server and a circuit-switched conferencing server. However, Baxley does not teach establishing, by the circuit switched conferencing server, a connection to the packet-switched conferencing server; and designating the connection as an active speaker on the circuit-switched conferencing server, whereby the packet-switched conferencing server is independent from the circuit-switched conferencing server. Baxley also does not specifically teach of the packet-switched conferencing server receiving mixture of packets using an asynchronous transmission method.

22. Kung teaches of a system for conferencing comprising a plurality of conferencing servers, wherein a conferencing server establishes a connection with another conferencing server and uses the connection for forwarding audio packets received from a plurality of clients (col. 31, lines 29-50).

23. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings for the packet-switched server and the circuit-switched server comprised in a server as taught by Baxley to be implemented as independent servers and for an independent server to establish a connection with another independent server for forwarding of audio packets received from a plurality of clients as taught by Kung. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Kung's

teachings would improve Baxley's teachings by providing distribution of load of a server and offload processing power of a server (col. 31, lines 36-39).

24. Baxley and Kung still do not specifically teach of the packet-switched conferencing server receiving audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method.

25. Polcyn teaches a system for voice conferencing between different networks, wherein a conferencing server receives communications using an asynchronous transmission method (col. 2, lines 32-35; col. 4, lines 21-24, 33-36).

26. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings for the audio packets received by the packet-switched conferencing as taught by Baxley to receive audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method as taught by Polcyn. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Polcyn's teachings of asynchronous transmission would improve the suggested system by allowing communication without synchronization of an external clock, which would allow a simpler setup of communication between devices.

27. As per claim 4, Baxley teaches substantially the invention as claimed including a computer readable storage medium for audio conferencing between clients of a circuit switched network and clients of a packet switched network, Baxley's teachings comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing said computer to receive, a first audio packet from the circuit-switched conferencing server, wherein said first audio packet is a mixture of packets received from each of said second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said circuit-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0050. Audio input is received from GSTN endpoints. It is inherent that software process receives audio input for mixing from another software process that receives audio input from the GSTN endpoints.);

computer readable program code means for causing said computer to forward said first audio packet to each of said first plurality of clients connected to said packet-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0051; 0052. Output stream is transmitted to the packet-based endpoints.);

computer readable program code means for causing said computer to receive, by said packet-switched conferencing server, a plurality of audio packets, wherein said plurality of audio packets comprises a second audio packet from each of said first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said packet-switched conferencing server (Paragraphs 0050-0051. Audio input is received from packet-based endpoints.); and

computer readable program code means for causing said computer to forward, over a connection, said second audio packet to said circuit-switched conferencing server (Paragraphs 0051-0052. Receive audio input from packet endpoints. Output stream is transmitted to the GSTN endpoints. It is inherent that a software process receives and sends audio packets to another software process for transmission to GSTN endpoints.);

whereby said first and second plurality of clients, using varying equipment and protocols, can simultaneously participate in a single audio conference application (Fig. 1; Paragraph 0036. GSTN endpoints are based on packet-based network, packet-based endpoints are based on packet-based network.);

whereby said packet-switched conferencing server keeps a list of said plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker (Paragraphs 0051-0052. Send stream to participants including active participants.).

28. Baxley teaches substantial features of the claimed invention including a single server comprising both a packet-switch conferencing server and a circuit-switched conferencing server. However, Baxley does not specifically teach of establishing by a packet-switched conferencing server, a connection to a circuit-switched conferencing server; and designating the connection as an active speaker on the packet-

switched conferencing server, whereby the packet-switched conferencing server is independent from the circuit-switched conferencing server. Baxley also does not specifically teach of said packet-switched conferencing server receiving audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method.

29. Kung teaches of a system for conferencing comprising a plurality of conferencing servers, wherein a conferencing server establishes a connection with another conferencing server and uses the connection for forwarding audio packets received from a plurality of clients (col. 31, lines 29-50).

30. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings for the packet-switched server and the circuit-switched server comprised in a server as taught by Baxley to be implemented as independent servers and for an independent server to establish a connection with another independent server for forwarding of audio packets received from a plurality of clients as taught by Kung. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Kung's teachings would improve Baxley's teachings by providing distribution of load of a server and offload processing power of a server (col. 31, lines 36-39).

31. Baxley and Kung still do not specifically teach of the packet-switched conferencing server receiving audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method.

32. Polcyn teaches a system for voice conferencing between different networks, wherein a conferencing server receives communications using an asynchronous transmission method (col. 2, lines 32-35; col. 4, lines 21-24, 33-36).

33. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings for the audio packets received by the packet-switched conferencing as taught by Baxley to receive audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method as taught by Polcyn. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Polcyn's teachings of asynchronous transmission would

improve the suggested system by allowing communication without synchronization of an external clock, which would allow a simpler setup of communication between devices.

20. As per claim 5, Baxley teaches substantially the invention as claimed including a computer readable storage medium for audio conferencing between clients of a circuit switched network and clients of a packet switched network, Baxley's teachings comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing said computer to receive a first audio packet from said packet-switched conferencing server, wherein said first audio packet is a mixture of packets received from each of said second plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said packet-switched conferencing server (Paragraphs 0050-0051. Audio input is received from packet-based endpoints. It is inherent that software process receives audio input for mixing from another software process that receives audio input from the packet-based endpoints.);

computer readable program code means for causing said computer to receive, by said circuit-switched conferencing server, a plurality of audio packets, wherein said plurality of audio packets comprises a second audio packet from each of said first plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker by said packet-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0050. Audio input is received from GSTN endpoints.);

computer readable program code means for causing said computer to mix said first audio packet and said second audio packet into one combined audio packet (Paragraphs 0050; 0054. Audio inputs are mixed. Sum stream represents the mixed input of all selected inputs.);

computer readable program code means for causing said computer to forward said one combined audio packet to each of said first plurality of clients connected to said circuit-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0052. Sum stream is directed to the GSTN endpoints.); and

computer readable program code means for causing said computer to forward, over a connection, said second audio packet to said packet-switched conferencing server (Paragraph 0052. Output stream is transmitted to the packet-based endpoints. It is inherent that a software process receives and sends audio packets to another software process for transmission to packet-based endpoints.);

whereby said first and second plurality of clients, using varying equipment and protocols, can simultaneously participate in a single audio conference application (Fig. 1; Paragraph 0038. GSTN endpoints are based on circuit-switched network, packet-based endpoints are based on packet-based network.);

whereby said packet-switched conferencing server keeps a list of said plurality of clients who have been designated as an active speaker (Paragraphs 0051-0052. Send stream to participants including active participants.).

21. Baxley teaches substantial features of the claimed invention including a single server serving as both a packet-switch conferencing server and a circuit-switched conferencing server. However, Baxley does not teach establishing, by said circuit switched conferencing server, a connection to said packet-switched conferencing server; and designating said connection as an active speaker on said circuit-switched conferencing server, whereby said packet-switched conferencing server is independent from said circuit-switched conferencing server. Baxley also does not specifically teach of the packet-switched conferencing server receiving mixture of packets using an asynchronous transmission method.

22. Kung teaches of a system for conferencing comprising a plurality of conferencing servers, wherein a conferencing server establishes a connection with another conferencing server and uses the connection for forwarding audio packets received from a plurality of clients (col. 31, lines 29-50).

23. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings for the packet-switched server and the circuit-switched server comprised in a

server as taught by Baxley to be implemented as independent servers and for an independent server to establish a connection with another independent server for forwarding of audio packets received from a plurality of clients as taught by Kung. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Kung's teachings would improve Baxley's teachings by providing distribution of load of a server and offload processing power of a server (col. 31, lines 36-39).

24. Baxley and Kung still do not specifically teach of the packet-switched conferencing server receiving audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method.

25. Polcyn teaches a system for voice conferencing between different networks, wherein a conferencing server receives communications using an asynchronous transmission method (col. 2, lines 32-35; col. 4, lines 21-24, 33-36).

26. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings for the audio packets received by the packet-switched conferencing as taught by Baxley to receive audio packets using an asynchronous transmission method as taught by Polcyn. The motivation for the suggested combination is that Polcyn's teachings of asynchronous transmission would improve the suggested system by allowing communication without synchronization of an external clock, which would allow a simpler setup of communication between devices.

**Conclusion**

34. The following prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

i) Cohen, US Patent #6,332,153 teaches of a server maintaining a list of active participants of a conference (col. 6, lines 3-10, 15-24).

35. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

36. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua Joo whose telephone number is 571 272-3966. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 7 to 4.

37. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on 571 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned 571-273-8300.

38. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/J. J./
Examiner, Art Unit 2154

/Nathan J. Flynn/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2154